



# Aragon High School

A Tradition of Excellence Since 1961

Accredited by the Western Association of Schools & Colleges

## 2020-21 SCHOOL PROFILE

CEEB Code 053163

### THE ARAGON WAY

We support all members of our community to realize their individual potential as productive participants in a diverse society and to pursue dynamic educational and career goals. We will provide the highest quality academic and co-curricular programs to foster intellectual, emotional, and physical well-being.

### ABOUT US

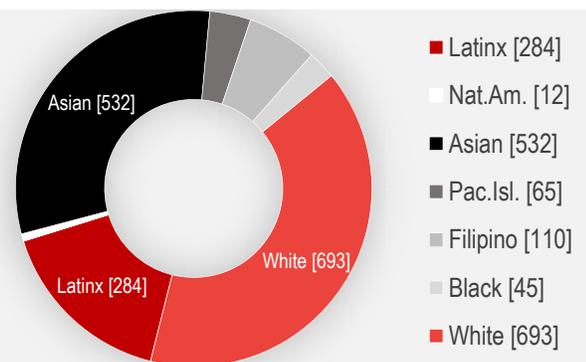
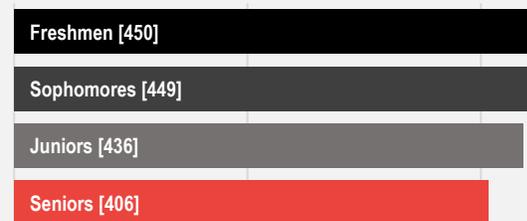
A California Gold Ribbon School, Aragon is a comprehensive public high schools serving approximately 1,740 students within a seven period day. As one of seven schools within the San Mateo Union High School District (SMUHSD), Aragon draws from San Mateo as well as its surrounding cities as part of the SMUHSD open enrollment policy. Our students represent a cross section of the area's socio-economic population. Many students from across the district request transfers to Aragon High School as a result of our challenging academics, superior performing arts program, and supportive staff.

### OUR STUDENTS

Students at Aragon High School are dedicated to improving their school and larger community through participation in numerous programs such as school culture initiatives, athletics, clubs, service learning, and volunteerism. We offer a broad curriculum to support students as they explore their academic, personal, and career goals. Our school gives students the opportunity to investigate their passions through various coordinated opportunities in job shadowing, peer tutoring, and concurrent enrollment at local community colleges. Additionally, a number of our students complete their high school years through the SMUHSD Middle College Program, completing up to a year of college credit by graduation.

### 2020-21 STUDENT BODY

Total enrollment: 1741



### CURRICULUM & GRADING

Graduation Requirements > 220 Units in 8 Departmental Areas > UC/CSU approved curriculum

English	40 Units	Career Technical Education	10 Units	<b>Grading:</b> <b>Weighted GPA</b> includes all courses 9-12 with extra point given for Honors and AP. <b>Unweighted GPA</b> is calculated for courses 9-12 A = 4; B = 3; C = 2; D = 1; F = 0 <b>Class Ranking:</b> AHS does not rank students.
Mathematics	30 Units	Visual & Performing Arts	10 Units	
Physical Education	20 Units	World Language	10 Units	
Health	5 Units	Electives	40 Units	
Science [1 Physical; 1 Biological/Life]	20 Units	Social Science [US History; Gov/Econ; Ethnic Studies; Modern World History]	35 Units	

1741

2020-21  
Student Enrollment

83

Certificated  
Teachers

398

Class of 2020  
Graduates

91%

Class of 2020  
Matriculation Rate

73%

Class of 2020 met  
UC/CSU a-g  
requirements

# ADVANCED COURSES & TEST RESULTS

All Advanced Placement and Honors courses are Open Access

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Biology  
Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
Chemistry  
Chinese Language

Computer Science  
English Language  
English Literature  
Environmental Science  
Japanese Language

Physics I  
Physics C  
Spanish Language  
Statistics  
Studio Art 2D

Studio Art 3D  
Studio Art Drawing  
US History  
US Gov. & Politics

## HONORS

Chinese IV H  
Economics H  
Japanese IV H  
Multivariable Calculus H  
Spanish IV H

AP TESTING (2019)

498

Students Took  
AP Exams

1287

Exams  
Completed

1081

Qualifying  
Scores

62

AP  
Scholars

SAT & ACT (2019)

27.7

ACT Mean Composite  
[22.7 State; 20.8 Nat'l]

1251

SAT Overall Mean  
[1068 Nat'l]

629

SAT Mean R/W  
[538 State; 537 Nat'l]

622

SAT Mean Math  
[538 State; 535 Nat'l]

## Open Access & Advanced Placement Courses

Aragon High School offers academically rigorous courses and a variety of Advanced Placement courses. It is District and AHS policy to allow students open enrollment into Advanced Standing, Honors, and Advanced Placement classes.

## COVID-19 Response & Shelter In Place Protocol

**Spring 2020:** On March 16, 2020, schools in the SMUHSD pivoted from traditional in-person instruction to online learning under the direction of the San Mateo County Health Department's Shelter in Place order due to rising COVID-19 cases and worsening public health conditions. The Board of Trustees voted to replace letter grades with assessments of Credit/NoCredit for all courses for the Spring 2020 semester. This decision reflected the State of California's position to 'do no harm to students' and helped families facing various challenges in light of the global pandemic.

**School Year 2020-21:** Given the current health directive limited large gathering and the County of San Mateo's placement on the 'watchlist', the Board of Trustees directed staff to begin the 2020-21 school year in Distance Learning. The District adopted a synchronous learning model in which students receive direct instruction in accordance with state mandates regarding instructional minutes. All students will receive letter grades (A-F) for all courses. Students were offered broader opportunities for the 2020-21 school year such as concurrent enrollment at either WASC accredited institutions or Community Colleges. Learn more about these opportunities at the District's [coursework outside of the District](#) webpage. The district placed a high priority on providing technology (Chromebooks and WIFI hotspots) to all students who requested them.

**Class of 2021 Standardized Testing:** Due to county health conditions, the majority of SAT and ACT testing in the Bay Area region of Northern California was cancelled beginning in the middle of March 2020 through September 2020. With the scarcity of testing dates and sites available in the Fall 2020, we have advised families that the majority of students do not need to take the ACT/SAT as a condition for admission for Fall 2021.

# COLLEGE MATRICULATION

## Data Collected from Annual Senior Surveys (Three Year Aggregate)

Academy of Art University	Humboldt State University	U of California, Berkeley
American University	Indiana University, Bloomington	U of California, Davis
Arizona State University	Johns Hopkins University	U of California, Irvine
Berklee College of Music	La Sierra University	U of California, Los Angeles
Boston College	Lehigh University	U of California, Merced
Boston University	Lewis & Clark College	U of California, Riverside
Brandeis University	Linfield University	U of California, San Diego
Brigham Young University – Hawaii	Loyola Marymount University	U of California, Santa Barbara
Brigham Young University – Provo	Loyola University, Chicago	U of California, Santa Cruz
Brown University	Macalester College	U of Chicago
Bryn Mawr College	Manhattanville College	U of Cincinnati
Bucknell University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	U of Colorado, Boulder
California College of the Arts	Menlo College	U of Colorado, Colorado Springs
California Lutheran University	Michigan Tech University	U of Denver
CA State Polytechnic U – Pomona	Mount Holyoke College	U of Hawaii, Hilo
CA State Polytechnic U – San Luis Obispo	New York University	U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
California State U, Channel Islands	Northeastern University	U of Massachusetts, Amherst
California State U, Chico	Northwestern University	U of Michigan, Ann Arbor
California State U, East Bay	Occidental College	U of Minnesota, Twin Cities
California State U, Fresno	Oregon State University	U of Nevada, Reno
California State U, Fullerton	Pacific Union College	U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
California State U, Long Beach	Peabody Conservatory at the Johns Hopkins University	U of North Dakota
California State U, Los Angeles	Pennsylvania State University	U of Oregon
California State U, Monterey Bay	Pomona College	U of Pennsylvania
California State U, Sacramento	Pratt Institute	U of Portland
California State U, San Bernardino	Purdue University	U of Pudget Sound
California State U, San Marcos	Reed College	U of Redlands
Cañada College	Saint Mary's College of California	U of Rhode Island
Carnegie Mellon University	San Diego State University	U of San Diego
Chapman University	San Francisco State University	U of San Francisco
College of Charleston	San Francisco City College	U of South Dakota
College of San Mateo	San Jose State University	U of Southern California
Collins College	Santa Barbara City College	U of Texas, Austin
Colorado College	Santa Clara University	U of the Pacific
Colorado School of Mines	Seton Hall University	U of Toronto
Columbia College – Chicago	Skyline College	U of Virginia
Columbia University	Sonoma State University	U of Washington, Seattle
Connecticut College	Southern Adventist University	U of Wisconsin, Madison
Cornell University	St. John's University	Vanderbilt University
Dominican University of California	Stanford University	Villanova University
Drexel University	Stephens College	Washington State University
Emory University	Swarthmore College	Washington University, St. Louis
Fisk University	Syracuse University	Wellesley College
Gavilan College	Temple University	West Valley College
George Washington University	Texas Christian University	Wheaton College
Georgetown University	The New School	Whittier College
Georgia Institute of Technology	Tulane University of Louisiana	Willamette University
Harvard College	Union College, Schenectady	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Harvey Mudd College	U of Arizona	Xavier University
Hawaii Pacific University		Yale University

# Connections @ AHS

## Programs Supporting Student & Community Continuing a Tradition of Excellence at Aragon High School

### ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

Aragon High School is committed to providing an inclusive academic learning environment for all students. As such, we offer a number of programmatic supports for students at the Tier 1, 2, and 3 levels of our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).

The Academic Center serves to support the Tier 1 needs of all students. Open after school on a daily basis, students are welcomed and encouraged to come by for group or individual tutoring supports. For students requiring additional supports for academic, behavioral, social or emotional needs, we offer short term Tier 2 research-based interventions including Girls' Circle, Boy's Group, Anxiety Group, Brief Intervention Program, Substance Use Program, and VAPE. Additional tiered supports offered at AHS include Section 504, Special Education, and Wellness Programs.

### ATHLETICS

Over 50% of our student body is connected to the school through Athletics, including 60% of our freshmen and sophomore students. At AHS, we offer a variety of athletic programs each Fall, Winter, and Spring, including badminton, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, water polo, and wrestling.

AHS is a member of the Peninsula Athletic League (PAL).

### CLUBS, MEDIA, AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The AHS campus community offers a little something for every student: there are new opportunities to connect every month! There are over 50 active clubs on campus as well as vibrant student media (Video Announcements with Aragon TV, Newspaper, and Publications) and leadership (ASB, Link Crew, and Service Commission) options.

### EXCELLENT TOGETHER

We know that positive relationships are the foundations and drivers for student learning and a healthy campus community. At AHS, we challenge our students to be 'EXCELLENT TOGETHER', and positively contribute to the AHS community on a daily basis.

### EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

The Aragon High School community is empowered with digital tools to guide students to be resourceful, creative and responsible digital citizens. Our teachers are supported by Instructional Technology Coordinators and full-time tech support to ensure that our devices are in good repair and teachers have opportunities to learn how to use new technologies in their classrooms.

We are also able to support families who may not have access to technology at home with a laptop lending program through our Library. This allows all students equitable access to learning through technology.

### PARENT GROUPS

The AHS Parents Groups is our primary parent group, which supports the AHS student learning community via fundraising (Aragon Excellence Fund), communication, and community building. It also assists in organizing parents to volunteer in many ways, including supports for Back to School Night, Distribution Days, Aragon Expo, Open House, Appreciation Events, Parent Education, Graduation, and weekly parent newsletters.

We welcome our parents onto campus and connect with them through a variety of booster groups, including Athletics, Drama, and Music Boosters. We are supportive of the differing needs of our parent communities, and provide ways for them to connect with us, including ELAC, Latino Parent Group, Aragon Asian Parent Group, and the Polynesian Parent Group.

### ADMINISTRATION

**Valerie Arbizu**, *Principal*  
**Nicole Elenz-Martin**, *Assistant Principal II*  
**Lisa Nagendran**, *Assistant Principal II*  
**Juan Flores**, *Assistant Principal I*



Home of the Dons

### SCHOOL COUNSELING

**Elin Cervantes** [Gr 9] [ecervantes@smuhsd.org](mailto:ecervantes@smuhsd.org)  
**Steve Allekotte** [Gr 10] [sallekotte@smuhsd.org](mailto:sallekotte@smuhsd.org)  
**Lea Sanguinetti** [Gr 11] [lsanguinetti@smuhsd.org](mailto:lsanguinetti@smuhsd.org)  
**Josephine Ho** [Gr 12] [jho@smuhsd.org](mailto:jho@smuhsd.org)